

VZCZCXRO7413
OO RUEHCN RUEHGH RUEHVC
DE RUEHBJ #0884 0920937
ZNY CCCCC ZZH
O 020937Z APR 09
FM AMEMBASSY BEIJING
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 3243
INFO RUEHOO/CHINA POSTS COLLECTIVE PRIORITY
RUCNDT/USMISSION USUN NEW YORK PRIORITY 2123
RUEHGV/USMISSION GENEVA PRIORITY 2419

C O N F I D E N T I A L BEIJING 000884

SIPDIS

DEPT FOR EAP/CM, IO/RHS, DRL/MLGA

E.O. 12958: DECL: 04/02/2019

TAGS: [PREL](#) [PHUM](#) [UNHRC](#) [UN](#) [CH](#)

SUBJECT: RESPONSE ON U.S. HUMAN RIGHTS COUNCIL CANDIDACY

REF: STATE 31175

Classified By: Political Minister-Counselor
Aubrey Carlson, reasons 1.4 (b/d).

11. (C) China welcomed U.S. willingness to seek a seat on the United Nations Human Rights Council (HRC), MFA International Organizations and Conferences Department Human Rights Division Deputy Director Yao Shaojun told PolOff April 2 in response to reftel points on the U.S. decision to seek election to the Council. Yao stated China's position that all member states should "work together to promote human rights through dialogue and cooperation." Asked whether China would support the U.S. candidacy in May HRC election, Yao recalled the P5 "gentlemen's agreement" under which P5 members support each other's candidacies and noted that both countries were now seeking seats on the HRC (in China's case, re-election). Yao added that election to the Council was principally decided by regional groups. Yao said China would study the U.S. request and provide a formal response at a later date.

PICCUTA